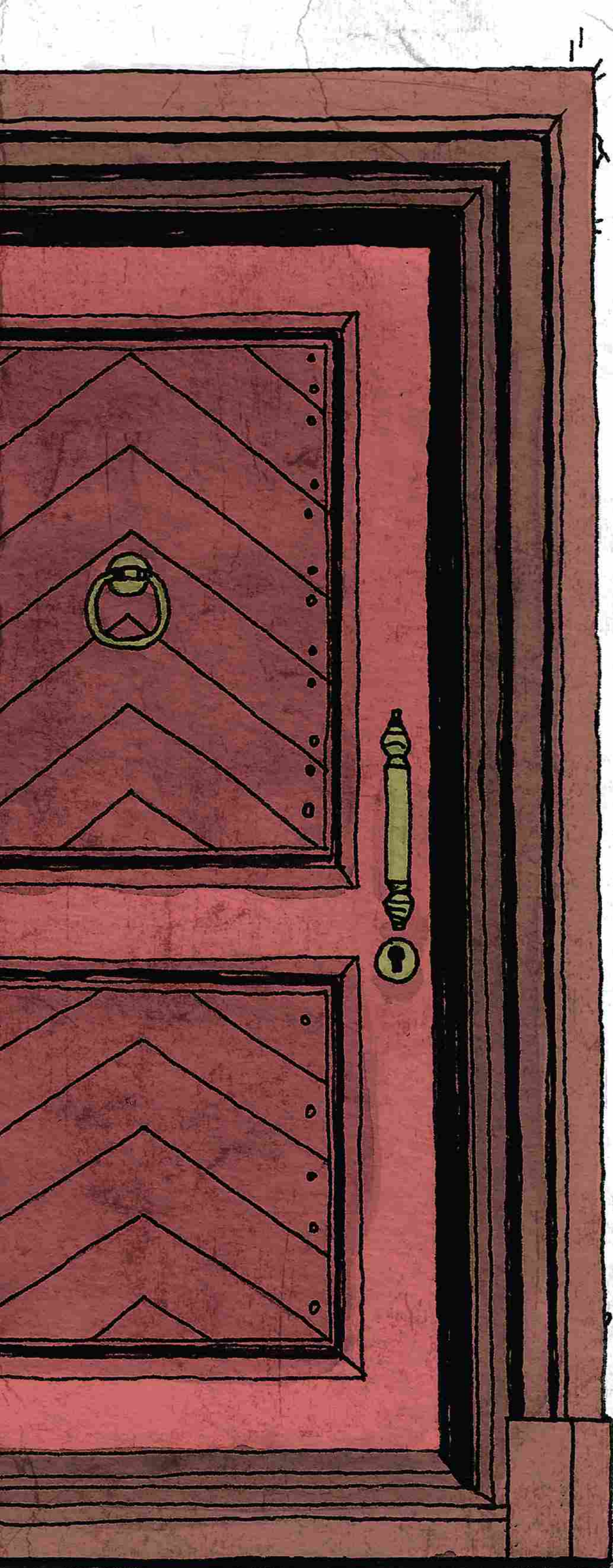


SCARLET WITCH



ORLANDO
DAUTERMAN
WILSON



If your
NEED IS GREAT
and your
HOPE IS GONE,
there you will meet the...

SCARLET WITCH

Wanda Maximoff has opened a witchcraft shop called Emporium, which, in addition to selling magical remedies, is also home to the Last Door, a portal that appears only to those with nowhere else to turn. Her shopkeeper, Darcy Lewis, came through that very door a few weeks ago, but Wanda didn't know why--until Scythia, leader of the Bacchae, came to town seeking justice for Darcy's crimes against her people. Wanda was able to fend Scythia off and bar her from Lotkill with a protection spell. But Scythia is not so easily deterred--and she has found an underground cavern full of the same anti-magic rock Wanda's been studying...

STEVE ORLANDO

writer

RUSSELL DAUTERMAN

artist

MATTHEW WILSON

color artist

VC's CORY PETIT

letterer

RUSSELL DAUTERMAN

cover artist

**DUSTIN NGUYEN; JOSHUA "SWAY"
SWABY; MARC ASPINALL; MARTÍN
CÓCCOLO & JESUS ABURTOV**

variant cover artists

ANTHONY GAMBINO *production designer & illustrator*

KAITLYN LINDTVEDT *assistant editor*

ALANNA SMITH *editor*

WIL MOSS *senior editor*

C.B. CEBULSKI *editor in chief*

SCARLET WITCH *created by* STAN LEE *and* JACK KIRBY

© 2023 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

LOTKILL,
NEW YORK.
TOWN LINE.

KRAK

Welcome To
LOTKILL

"A great place to start again."

POPULATION
3,964



ELEVATION
180'

Information AVAILABLE AT LOTKILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

SO MUCH
FOR YOUR DOME,
MAXIMOFF.

SCYTHIA'S
COMING.

CHOPPA
CHOPPA
CHOPPA
CHOPPA

YOU?

YOU'RE THE **SCARLET WITCH**. A **WARRIOR QUEEN** IS TRYING TO **KILL YOUR FRIEND**.

YOU **FROWN** ON SUCH THINGS.

DAMN, WANDA...

...ALMOST LIKE WE DIDN'T HAVE TO SPEND THE **NIGHT** IN A **HOTEL**.

HOTEL AND INFIRMARY, DARCY. SCYTHIA **HURT** PEOPLE.

REMAKING A **SHOP** IS EASY... **TRUST** IS HARDER TO HEAL.

SPEAKING OF--HEY! YOUR **SHOULDER'S** STILL BLEEDING!

IT'S **NOTHING**.

LIKE **HELL**, WANDA. FINISH THE **DOOR**...



"...THEN GET INSIDE."

PLEASE. IT'S LESS THAN A FLESH WOUND. I'VE FOUGHT THANOS.

I DON'T KNOW HER.

A HEALING CHARM COULD MEND THE WOUND IN SECONDS.



YOU CAN CHARM YOURSELF AFTER I CHANGE THE BANDAGE, OKAY?

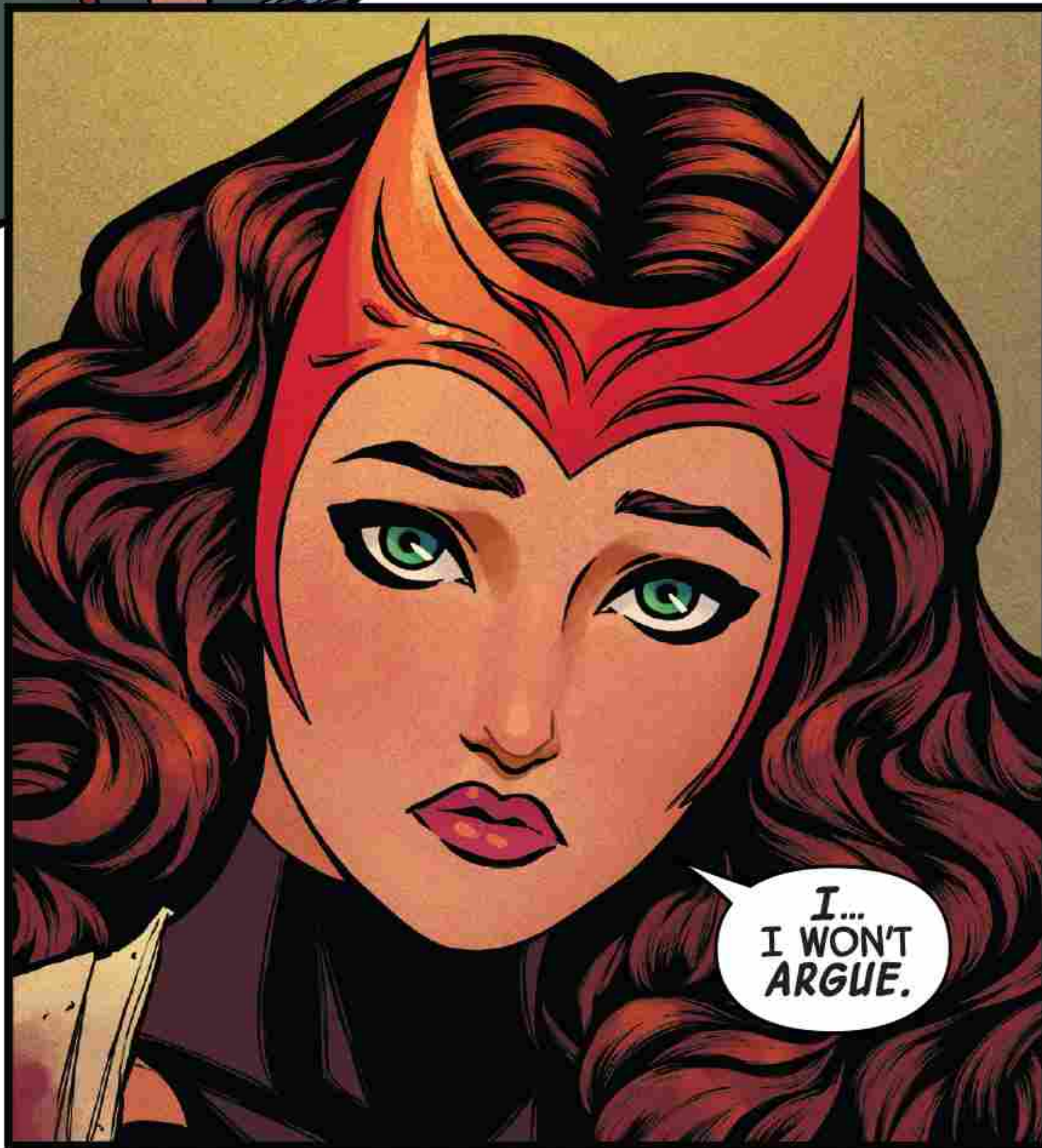
DARCY, THIS IS HARDLY--



IT'S NECESSARY, WANDA. IT'S NECESSARY. SCYTHIA CAME FOR ME.

YOU'RE THROWING DOWN WITH THE MURDER PRINCESS FOR ME. BLEEDING FOR ME.

THESE ARE REAL STAKES FOR ME. SO LET ME HELP YOU.



I... I WON'T ARGUE.



THIS LOW FORM OF MYSTERIUM KEEPS REPELLING MY MAGIC...IT'S A DANGEROUS MYSTERY.

SURE. AND WE'LL WRITE ONE BANGER OF A MINERALOGY EPIC IF WE SURVIVE THIS, BU--



LOOK OUT! SHE'S NOT STOPPING!

ONE MOMENT, DARCY...

"...I NEED TO STEP
OUTSIDE."

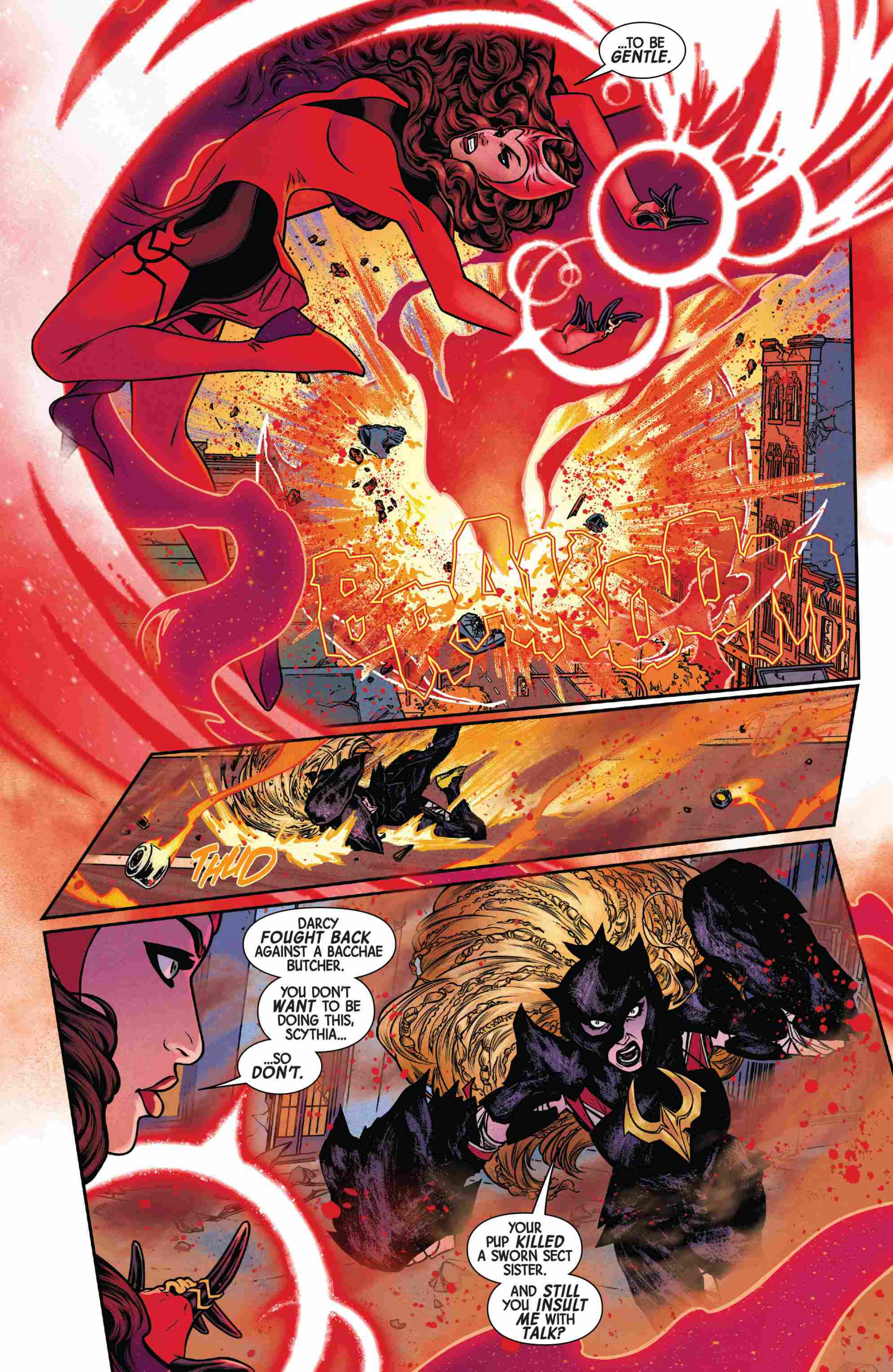
SCYTHIA.



THAT'S
RIGHT, WITCH.
YOUR **SQUIRE**
OWES **BLOOD**
TO THE
BACCHAE...

...AND I
WILL YET SEE
IT **SPILLED!**

NO
TIME...



...TO BE
GENTLE.

THUD

DARCY
FOUGHT BACK
AGAINST A BACCHAE
BUTCHER.

YOU DON'T
WANT TO BE
DOING THIS,
SCYTHIA...

...SO
DON'T.

YOUR
PUP **KILLED**
A SWORN SECT
SISTER.

AND **STILL**
YOU **INSULT**
ME WITH
TALK?



I DID TRY.

ZZZAPSHWAAZZ

CUTE.

AND FAR MORE LIKE IT.



SHOW ME
YOUR SPELLS,
WITCH!

WAIT,
SCYTHIA--

DO YOUR
WORST--IT WON'T
MATTER!

ANYTHING
YOU MAKE--

--I
BREAK!

YOU'VE LOST
YOUR STING. A
BAUBLE OF THIS
ROCK DREW YOUR
BLOOD.

NOW AN
ARMOR MADE
FROM IT BRINGS
YOU TO YOUR
KNEES.

WHERE
COULD YOU FIND
SO MUCH...

YOU'LL
NEVER KNOW.
AND YOU CANNOT
STOP THIS. DARCY
LEWIS WILL DIE FOR
HER CRIMES.

YOUR MAGIC
CANNOT TOUCH ME.
YOU'VE NOTHING TO
HOLD ME BACK. NO
WEAPONS
LEFT.

NOT
QUITE...

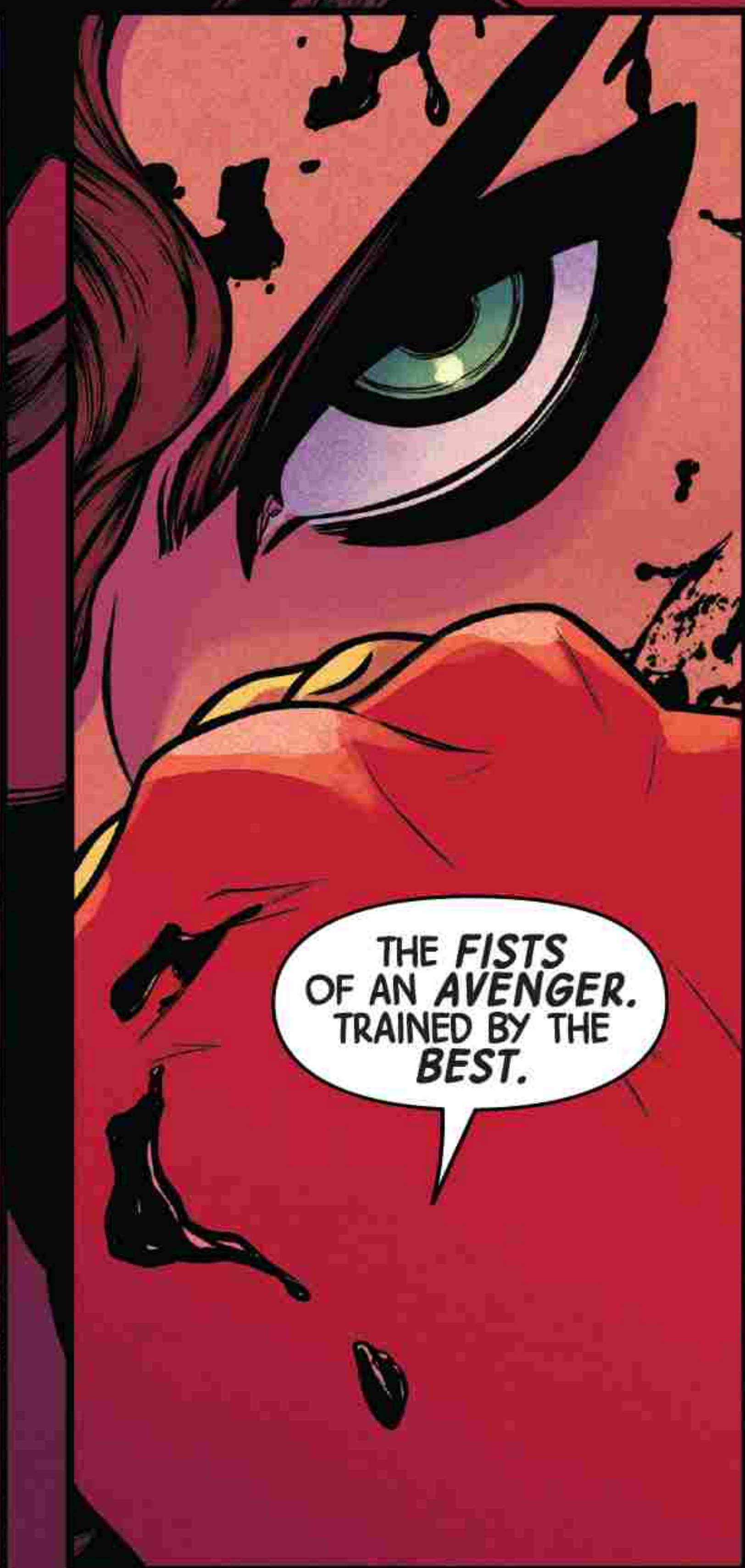


I'VE
STILL GOT
TWO.



YES,
OF COURSE.
OF COURSE
YOU DO.

THE MUCH-
FEARED *HANDS*
OF A SPELLWEAVER.
I *QUAKE*.



THE *FISTS*
OF AN *AVENGER*.
TRAINED BY THE
BEST.



NOT
OUR
BEST.



YOU
WANT TO
BREAK **CHAINS**,
SCYTHIA?

START
WITH YOUR
OWN.

WHAT?!

WHIFF

MY
OBLIGATION
TO MY PEOPLE?!

YOU **DARE**
SPEAK OF MY
BURDEN?

HER **SECT**
HAD LONG LOST
ITS WAY, BUT SHE
WAS **FAMILY**.

AND
BLOOD
DEMANDS
BLOOD.

LEWIS
DECEIVED AND
CUT DOWN
ONE OF THE
BACCHAE.

CENTURIES
OF TRADITION. A
CODE MOLDED BY
A COVEN OF
MOTHERS.

SAYS
WHO?!

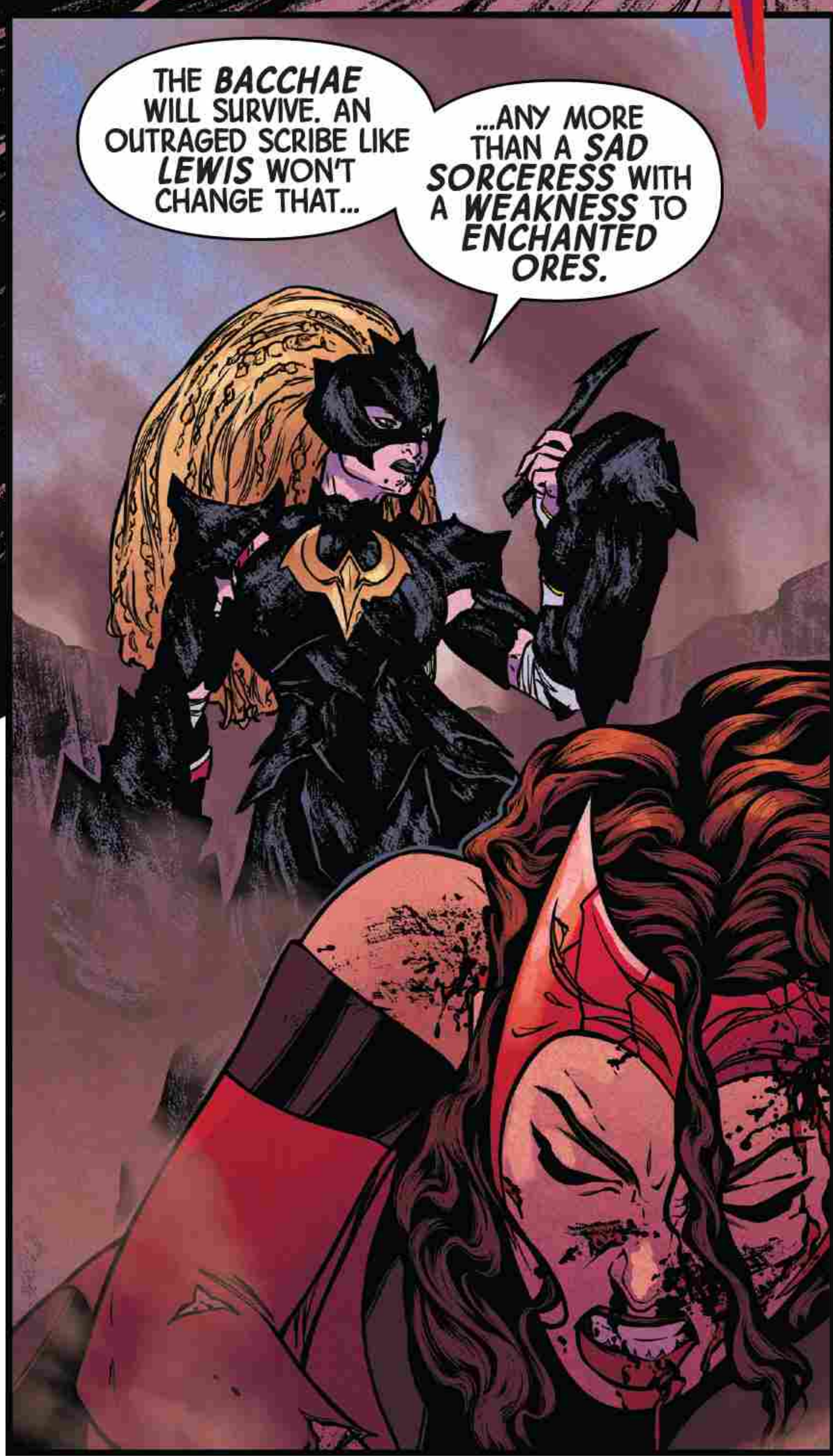
AGHK!

DUTY
TRUMPS DESIRE.
IMAGINE THE LIVES
SAVED IF **YOU'D**
KNOWN YOUR
PLACE.

WHAT I
DO **HERE**,
I DO...



...BECAUSE I MUST!



THE **BACCHAE** WILL SURVIVE. AN OUTRAGED SCRIBE LIKE **LEWIS** WON'T CHANGE THAT...

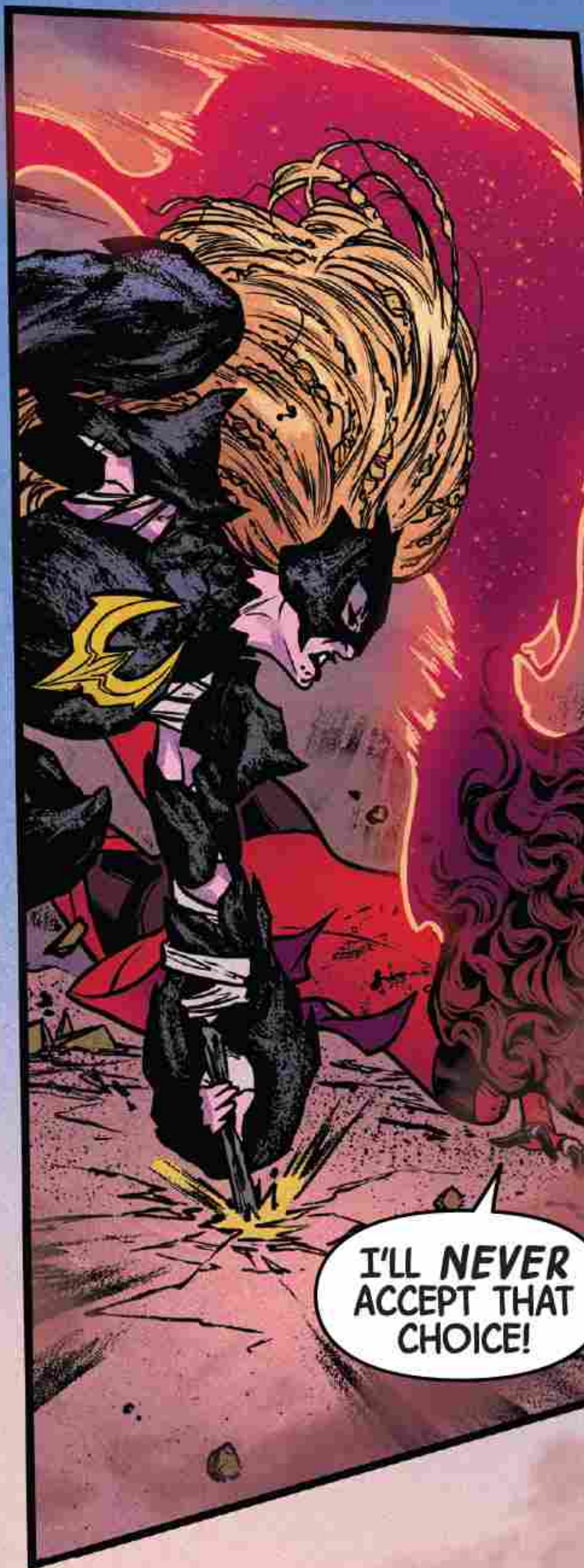
...ANY MORE THAN A **SAD SORCERESS** WITH A **WEAKNESS TO ENCHANTED ORES.**



THIS **BLADE** WAS MADE FOR YOU, **SCARLET WITCH**. BORN OF MY OWN TWO HANDS.

IT **WILL** TAKE YOUR LIFE. NO **MAGIC** CAN STOP THAT. SO, ONE LAST TIME...

...YIELD **LEWIS** OR **DIE.**



I'LL NEVER
ACCEPT THAT
CHOICE!



YOU
HAVE NO
CHOICES
LEFT.



I DO.
IN FACT,
I'VE JUST
MADE--



CHOK
--ONE--
GHK!



OH YES.
YOU'VE CHOSEN
DEATH...WHEN
YOU COULD'VE
LIVED.



NOT YET,
SCYTHIA. BUT
ALMOST.
AND I
THINK YOU'LL
SEE...



...IF DEATH
IS THE PATH
TAKEN...



...WE'LL
WALK IT
TOGETHER.

SHOULD'VE
ARMORED
YOUR CHIN.

NO...IF
YOU WISHED ME
DEAD, YOU'D HAVE
VAPORIZED ME
IN OUR FIRST
DUEL.

MAYBE I
WAS GIVING YOU
A CHANCE. HOPING
YOU WOULDN'T
PUSH ME HERE.

IF YOU MAKE
ME CHOOSE
BETWEEN OUR LIVES
AND DARCY'S...YOU
WON'T LIKE THE
ANSWER.

THE BACCHAE
DON'T NEED TO
LOSE THEIR FOUNDER.
THERE'S STILL
TIME.

DO YOU
WANT TO
DIE FOR YOUR
DUTY...

...OR LIVE
FOR YOUR
PEOPLE?



WHAT...DO YOU SUGGEST?



HEALING, SCYTHIA...I SUGGEST HEALING.

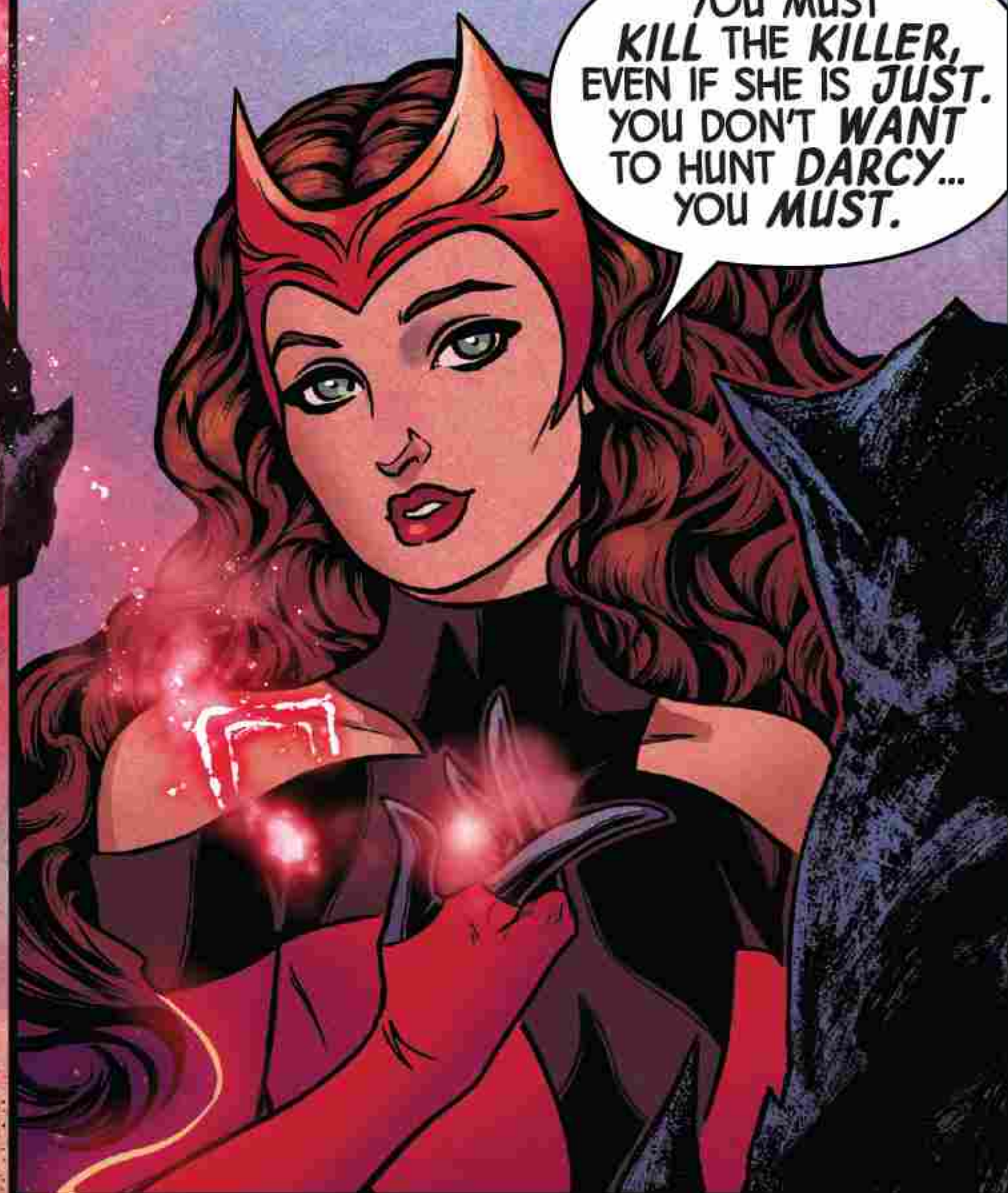
YOU--YOU COULD'VE MENDED YOURSELF AT ANY TIME?

AND YOU, THE ROCK REPELS MAGIC. OUR WOUNDS DON'T.

BUT YOU NEEDED TO KNOW THE STAKES WERE **REAL** FOR ME.

DUTY DICTATES YOU **MUST** AVENGE A BACCHAE DEATH, EVEN IF YOUR LOST SISTER WAS **UNJUST**.

YOU MUST **KILL THE KILLER**, EVEN IF SHE IS **JUST**. YOU DON'T **WANT** TO HUNT **DARCY**... YOU **MUST**.



YOU SAID THE BACCHAE **BREAK CHAINS**. THEY **LIBERATE**. I **HEARD** YOU, SCYTHIA.



I SPENT **AGES** DOING WHAT I THOUGHT I **HAD** TO DO. FINALLY, I ASKED... **WHY?**

SO, YOUR **CODE** WORKED FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS. DOES IT WORK **NOW?**

YOU **FOUNDED** THE BACCHAE. DO WHAT I **WISH** I'D DONE SO MUCH **SOONER**.



GATHER YOUR PEOPLE. **CONVENE** A COVEN OF MOTHERS. AND IF YOU DON'T **LIKE** THE TRADITION?

CHANGE THE TRADITION.

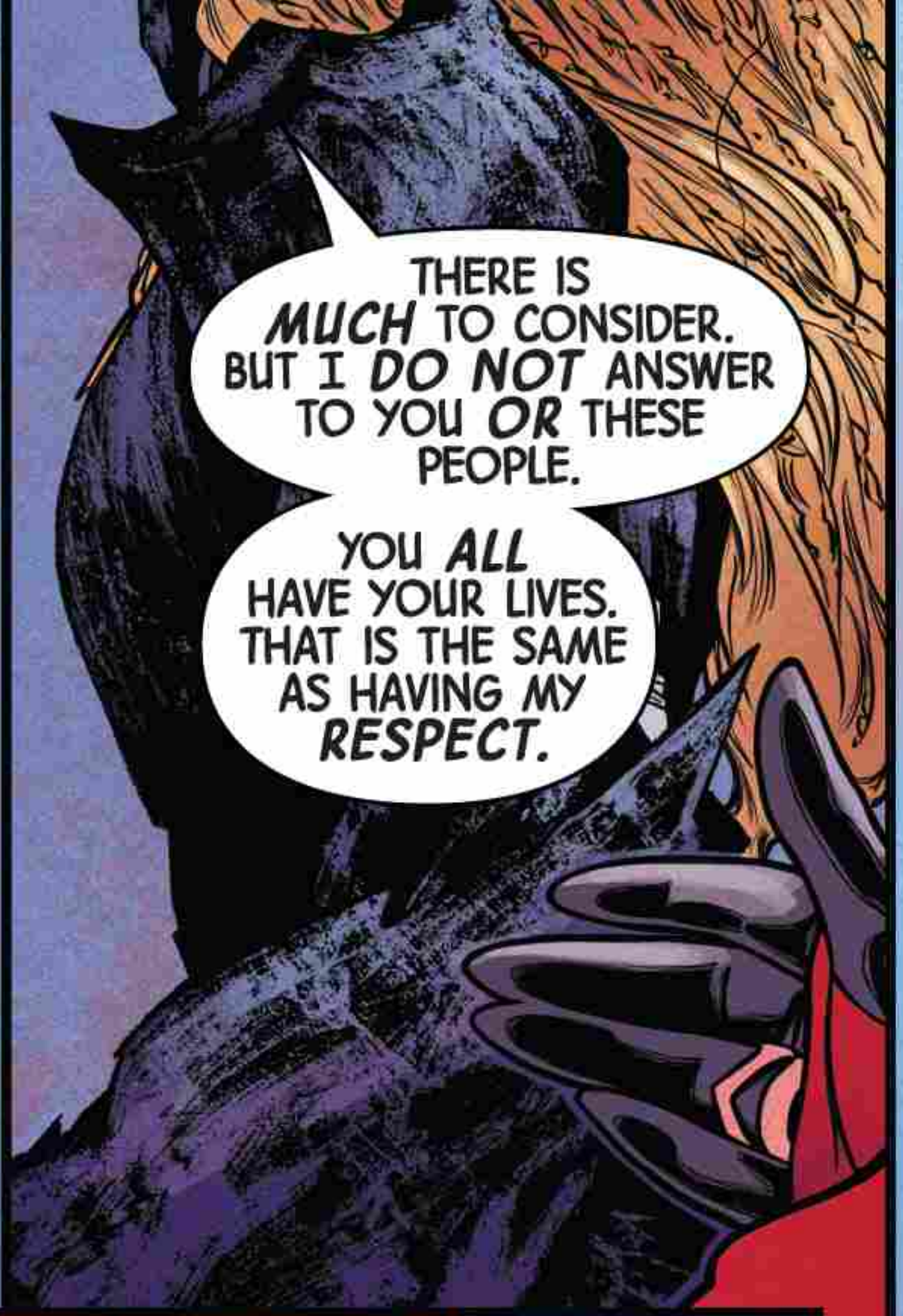


...PERHAPS.

BUT IF THE
BACCHAE ARE
TO CHANGE...

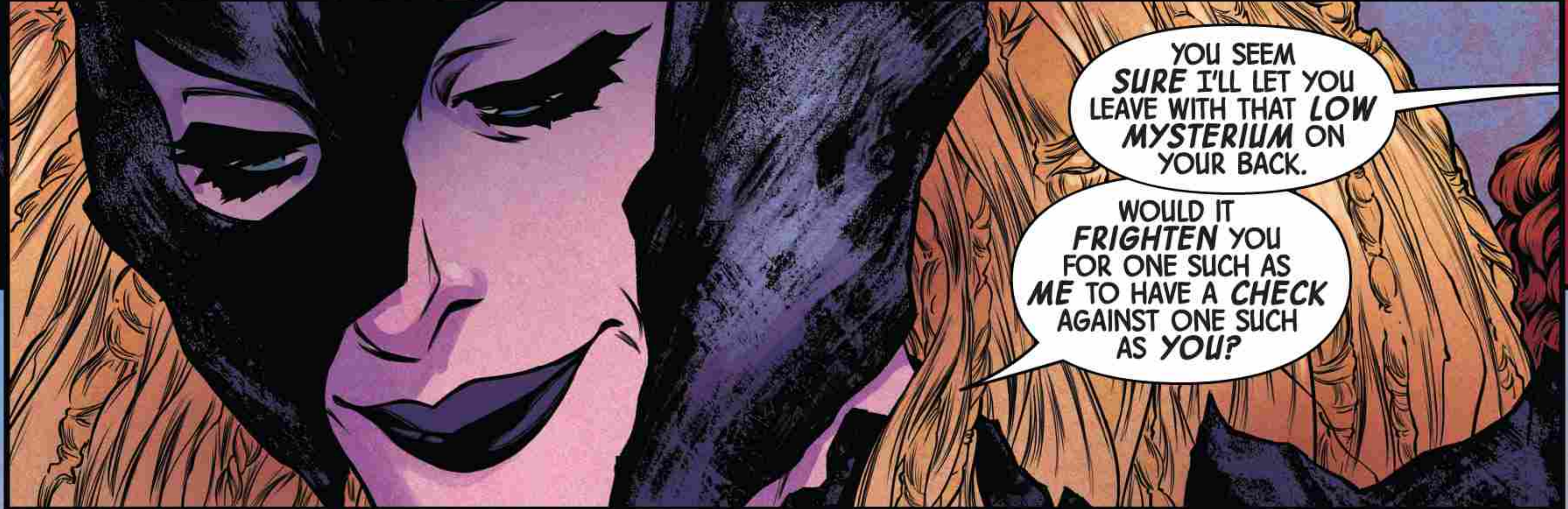


...IT WILL BE
FOR **THEM**
ALONE TO
DECIDE.



THERE IS
MUCH TO CONSIDER.
BUT I **DO NOT** ANSWER
TO YOU OR THESE
PEOPLE.

YOU **ALL**
HAVE YOUR LIVES.
THAT IS THE SAME
AS HAVING MY
RESPECT.



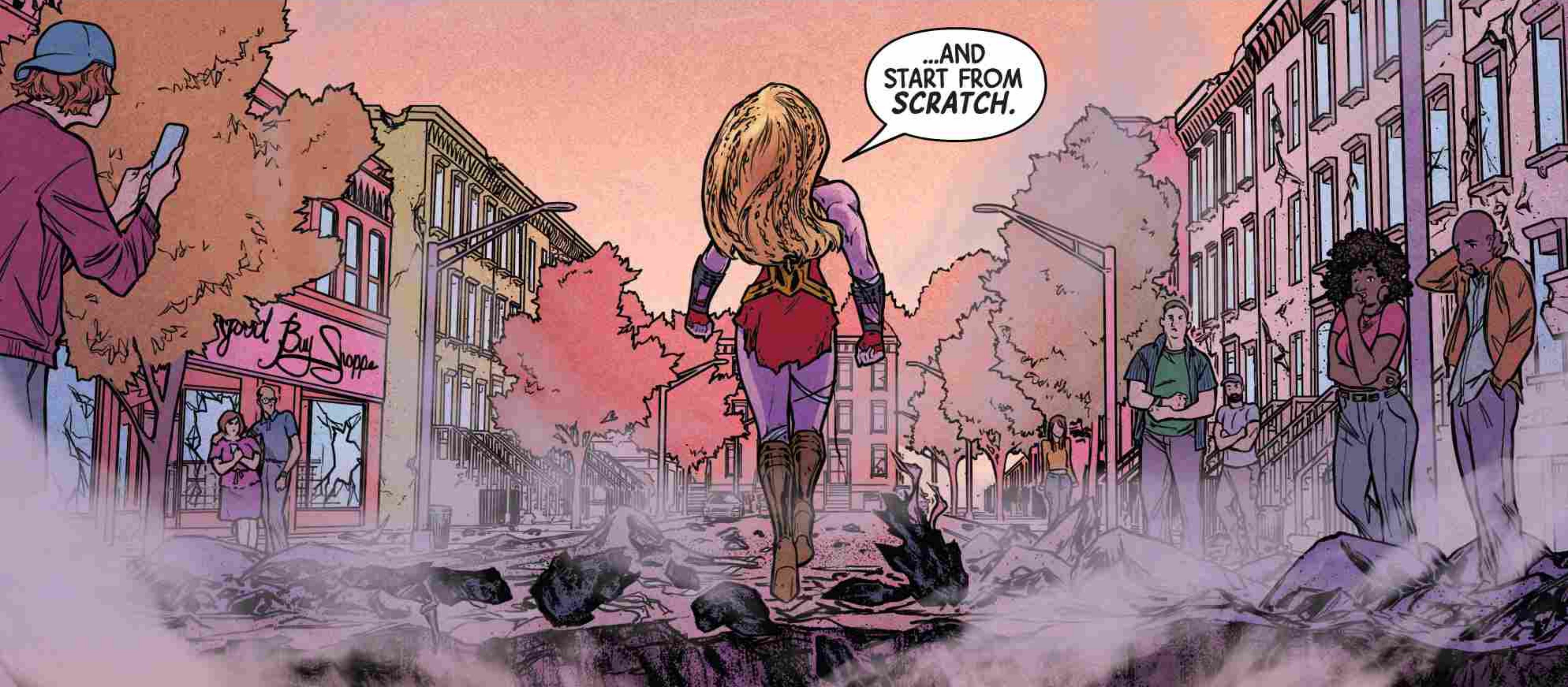
YOU SEEM
SURE I'LL LET YOU
LEAVE WITH THAT **LOW**
MYSTERIUM ON
YOUR BACK.

WOULD IT
FRIGHTEN YOU
FOR ONE SUCH AS
ME TO HAVE A **CHECK**
AGAINST ONE SUCH
AS **YOU?**



AS I SAID
IN THE CLENCH,
WE ARE **ENEMIES**
NO LONGER. I
NEED THIS
ARMOR NO
LONGER.

AND IF WE
DO BATTLE
AGAIN, I CAN **AT**
LEAST GIVE YOU
A **FAIR**
SHOT...



...AND
START FROM
SCRATCH.

SO...
IT'S OVER?
SHE'S REALLY
GONE?

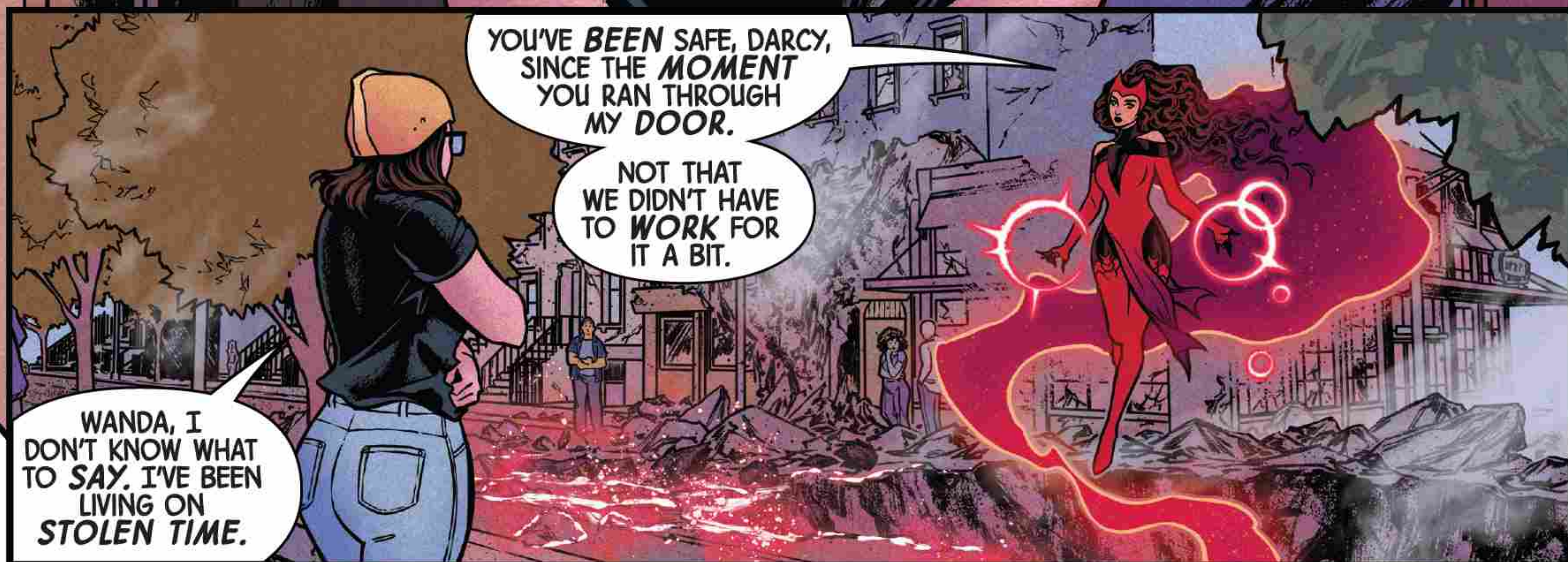
I'M
SAFE?



YOU'VE *BEEN* SAFE, DARCY,
SINCE THE *MOMENT*
YOU RAN THROUGH
MY DOOR.

NOT THAT
WE DIDN'T HAVE
TO *WORK* FOR
IT A BIT.

WANDA, I
DON'T KNOW WHAT
TO SAY. I'VE BEEN
LIVING ON
STOLEN TIME.



I NEVER *EXPECTED* MORE.
NEVER *THOUGHT* I'D LIVE
PAST THE END OF SCYTHIA'S
BLADE. I MEAN...

...WHAT
NOW?

NOW? NOW
YOU'RE SCARED.
YOU'RE AT A LOW
WITH NO IDEA HOW
TO DIG YOURSELF
OUT.

AND ALL
YOU'RE *SURE*
OF IS THAT THERE'S
NO WAY BACK UP
TO THE LIGHT.



YOU'RE
WHERE *I'VE*
BEEN FAR TOO
OFTEN, DARCY.
BUT THERE IS
A WAY UP.

AND
WE'LL FIND
IT--TOGETHER.
NOW...

...HOW
DOES THAT
SOUND?







CLEARLY NOT.

AND HEY, DO ME A FAVOR? GET THAT *DINER* UP AND RUNNING FIRST.

THAT'S WHERE THEY FORGE THE EGG, THE HAM AND THE CHEESE. DON'T WORRY, I'M *BUYING*.

BUT I PAY YOU.

RELAX! I'VE BEEN *SKIMMING* OFF THE TOP SINCE *DAY ONE*. WHICH REMINDS ME...

...DOES MY LIFE *NEED* TO BE IN IMMINENT DANGER TO WORK AT YOUR SHOP?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THERE'S NO SUCH REQUIREMENT.

THEN, I WAS THINKING... COULD I *STAY ON*?

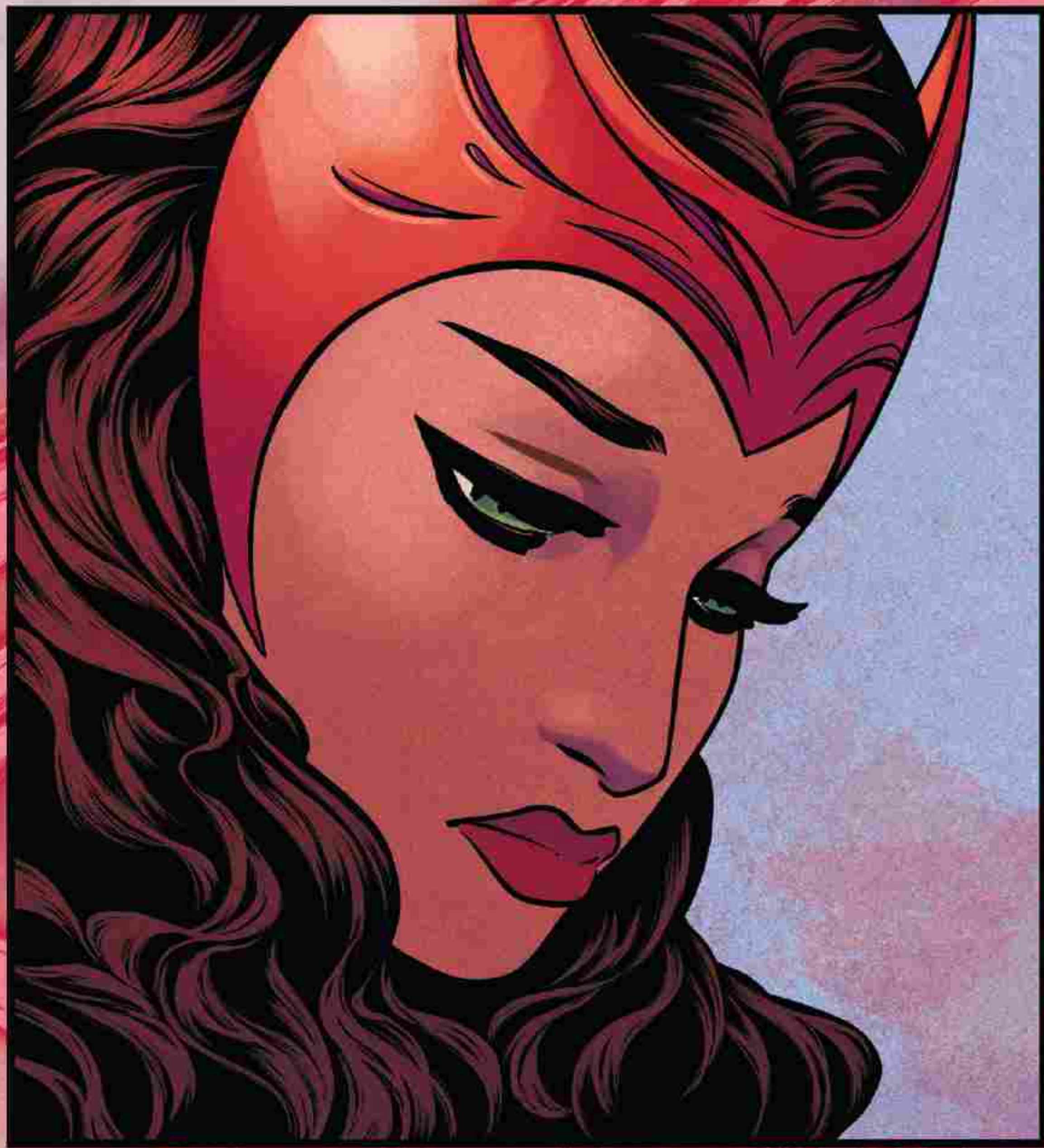
I MEAN, THIS *LOW MYSTERIUM* CAN HURT YOU. AND THERE'S MORE OF IT OUT THERE.

I'M NO *WITCH*, BUT I'M A *HELL* OF A *REPORTER*. YOU TOOK ME IN, WANDA...

NO QUESTIONS ASKED. SO LET ME ASK SOME QUESTIONS.

LET ME *INVESTIGATE* THIS *ROCK*.

DEAL?



YOU ARE THE
SCARLET WITCH.
AND YOU KNOW.

YOU TAKE
JOY WHERE IT
FINDS YOU...

...BECAUSE
SOMETHING'S
ALWAYS
LURKING.

DUDE! IS
THAT, LIKE, A
CAVE? YOU
WANT IN?

HELL
YEAH, SON!
I'M NEVER NOT
GOING IN.

TAHP TAHP

HEY--
YOU HEAR
THAT?

AREN'T
WE, LIKE,
ALONE--?

YO!
SOMETHING'S
NOT RIGHT,
DUDE!

YOUR SIX-
PACK'S GOT
OPINIONS,
IT'S--

PLOKTC

SNAP

SKLERK

SKLERK

PLOKTC

AGHK!
MOTHER
OF--PLACE'S
HAUNTED,
DUDE!

RUN!

TAHP TA-TAHP

HAUNTED?

A full-page comic book illustration of Magneto. He is standing in a dark, rocky, mountainous landscape under a blue sky. He wears his iconic helmet with a white 'M' and a black suit with a red claw-like detail on the chest. He is holding a glowing blue lightning bolt in his left hand. In the upper left, a large, dark, winged figure is shown in flight. Three speech bubbles contain dialogue. A sound effect 'TA-TAHP TAHP TAHP' is written in a stylized font. At the bottom, a promotional text block is present.

PERHAPS IT
IS. PERHAPS I
AM A GHOST.

WHAT *ELSE*
DO YOU CALL
THOSE...

TA-TAHP TAHP TAHP

WHO
REFUSE
TO STAY
DEAD?

NEXT: THE TEACHER VERSUS THE STUDENT...
IN *SCARLET WITCH ANNUAL #1!*

SCARLET LETTERS

Loved SCARLET WITCH #3! Best of the series so far. A little “sword and witchery” for us. Gorgeous art, cool layout and narrative style. Thanks, everyone, and keep them coming!

Mark Martin Jr.
Florence, South Carolina

Thank you so much, as I've been saying to a lot of folks these days! And I'm happy to do it. Issue #3 was a blast, and it was my pleasure to get out of the way and provide Sara and Matthew a showcase to do what they do best: Thrill us all with incredible imagery and wildly imaginative, evocative worlds. Giving homage to the *Prince Valiant* newspaper comics I grew up reading was certainly an added bonus as well.

Dear all,
Wanda is my favorite heroine. She has suffered so much, she has hurt those she loves and she has been shattered to pieces. But she didn't let it get her down--she overcame it all. She fixed her mistakes and earned the forgiveness of her loved ones. She inspires me so much! So thank you all for honoring her. Thanks to you, I can see her every month helping others. Saving the world is important, but as a Jewish proverb says, whoever saves one life saves all of humanity.

It is because of the Scarlet Witch that I was able to overcome depression and face the consequences of my actions to make amends. I hope to prove myself worthy of Marvel's most honorable heroine.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you all--it means so much to me.

Hugo Lecompte

I couldn't be happier to hear this, Hugo! Thank you so much for supporting Wanda--but most of all, I'm glad her story's been impactful to you in such a deep way! You honor all of us on the creative team, and you're appreciated, my friend!

Hello! My name is Fawaz Qashat, and the Scarlet Witch is my favorite fictional character of all time! I fell in love with her through the MCU, and then I explored the comics she had. I love Wanda, and I wanted to thank you for giving her

another solo series! I have waited so long to read a story centered around her! I attend San Diego State University and work with Comics@SDSU, which is run by my professor and our pop culture curator, and we talk about Wanda all the time! My projects are all about Wanda, and I even started a student organization for it! We can't wait to talk about this solo series in our upcoming meetings! Thank you for letting me share just how much I love Scarlet Witch!

Fawaz Qashat

Thank you, Fawaz! I'm immediately jealous of your university program--I would've loved something like that back when I was in college (the Cretaceous era). We couldn't be happier, all of us on the team, to have you following Wanda's adventures in the comics after meeting her in the MCU. That's a wonderful ecosystem to be a part of! Thank you again.

Dear SCARLET WITCH team,
I just read issue #1, and I have a complete newfound respect for Wanda Maximoff, the Scarlet Witch. This is a character who has played so many different roles over the years--Avenger, villain, love interest and world changer. Now she really feels like the star of her own series. A woman seeking redemption and ready to help humanity in ways only she can.

The first issue was written with so much heart, humor and humanity by Steve Orlando. Sending Doc Hydro to a bubble reality based on the New Jersey DMV had me laughing out loud. Establishing the Last Door as a mechanism to bring new people to Wanda regularly, who require her special brand of help, will keep us wondering who will be next. With great surprises like Vivian Vision coming through it at that issue's end. There are some intriguing mysteries to keep us readers coming back, like are there other artifacts immune to her magic, why did her new friend Darcy come through the Last Door and who is trying to kill Vivian?

I can't end my note without praise for Sara Pichelli's beautiful and cinematic sequential artwork. The characters are both unique and real. Thank you for giving such an interesting character a book she deserves and setting up a world that readers will want to keep coming

back to. Until Quicksilver decides to take the scenic route, Make Mine Marvel.

Jason Peppy
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Thank you, Jason! You saying that Wanda finally feels like the star is exactly what we all hoped to hear--Wanda is, and always will be, the focus of this book. Her triumphs, her failures, her missteps and even just her small moments of joy. It'll all orbit around her. It's a pleasure having you on board as a reader--and I, of course, agree! Sara has been doing career-best work in a career that's already long had G.O.A.T. status. We're lucky to have her on the team, along with Matthew Wilson on colors! Thank you again, and be well!

Hey there!

I just want to tell everyone working on SCARLET WITCH how excited I am to have Wanda back for a solo adventure. I love the character, and I have loved what you are doing with her so far. This is definitely one of the comics I religiously read monthly.

After her many misadventures, it's great to see Wanda helping others. The guest-per-issue format has me wondering who could appear through the Last Door next. I also need to know more about the mystery surrounding Darcy's backstory! Thanks for this incredible story!

May

It's wonderful to hear from you, May! And even better to hear that you're enjoying the new run and refreshed direction--especially the Last Door! Darcy's backstory has certainly been one filled with intense questions--duty versus justice, especially. That being said, it's questions like those that make her a perfect foil for Wanda in this book. Her wit's just a bonus. Like Wanda, Darcy's made mistakes (although not on a cosmic scale like Wanda), so she ends up on a parallel journey to our hero. I wonder who else might be inspired by Wanda's very public journey of reinvention? We'll find out sooner than you think.

--Steve

Dearest A.,
How lovely to hear of your...
rejuvenation. I know a thing or two
about transformation myself, as you
well know, and I must say, I hope
yours has served you as well as mine
has me.

Which is all to say--would you care
to join me for tea sometime? I feel we
may share some interest in the recent
activities of a certain witch. Putting
our heads together would prove
beneficial to everyone involved, don't
you think?
You pick the place.

-Necrodamus

NEXT:
SCARLET WITCH ANNUAL#1
AGATHA ALL ALONG!
AND IN JULY...

SCARLET WITCH #6!

We want to hear from you!
Send letters to
MHEROES@MARVEL.COM
marked "okay to print"!



